

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3540

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EC, LU

SUBJECT: LUXEMBOURG VIEWS ON PRESIDENT NIXON'S VISIT

TO WESTERN EUROPE.

REF: LUXEMBOURG 569

PAUL WURTH, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF MFA TOLD CHARGE ON AUG 22 THAT
EC FOREIGN MINISTERS ARE STRUGGLING OVER THE QUESTION
OF THE TIMING AND CONTENT OF THE PROPOSED VISIT BY
PRESIDENT NIXON TO WESTERN EUROPE THIS FALL. WURTH
SAID THAT THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS ARE GENUINELY CON-
CERNED THAT INTRA EC CONSULTATIONS AND EC-U.S. NEGOTI-
ATIONS, BOTH BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL, WILL NOT
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PRODUCE SIGNIFICANT AGREEMENT AND TEXTS IN TIME FOR THE

PRESIDENT'S PLANNED VISIT. ACCORDING TO WURTH, SOME OF THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS BELIEVE THAT THE U.S. IS INFLEXIBLE ON THE QUESTION OF HAVING A MAJOR PORTION OF THE U.S.-EC DIALOGUE COMPLETED BY THE TIME THE PRESIDENT VISITS WESTERN EUROPE THIS FALL. WURTH SAID THAT THE FRENCH ARE PLAYING ON ALLEGED AMERICAN "PRESURE" WITH REGARD TO THE PREPARATION FOR THE VISIT IN ORDER TO ARGUE THAT NOTHING USEFUL CAN COME OUT OF A VISIT "IN AN EC CONTEXT" ALTHOUGH PARIS SEES NOTHING WRONG WITH A SERIES OF BILATERAL MEETINGS. WURTH COMMENTED THAT IF THE U.S. SHOWED SOME FLEXIBILITY ON THE TIMING OF THE DECLARATION, AND HERE HE REPEATED THE SUGGESTION WE HAVE HEARD FROM OTHER MFA OFFICIALS (REFTEL) THAT THE PRESIDENT'S TRIP "LAUNCH RATHER THAN CONCLUDE THE YEAR OF EUROPE," THEN THE EC COULD GET THE FRENCH TO TAKE POSITIONS ON THE FORM OF THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT AND THE CONTENT OF AN EVENTUAL DECLARATION WHICH WOULD BE "MORE ACCEPTABLE TO THE U.S." WURTH CONCLUDED THAT GOL FOREIGN MINISTER THORN WAS LIKELY TO ARGUE FOR THIS SEQUENCE IN HIS UPCOMING MEETINGS WITH HIGH EC AND U.S. OFFICIALS. TARNOFF

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